Howland Wood - Curatorial

Whicher, George Meason
[Archaeological Institute of America
+ Hunter College]

1918-1920

original front tab of folder

Whicher, G. W.

George Mason 1918–1929

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

NEW-YORK SOCIETY.

W. R. WARREN,
PRESIDENT.
26 Beaver Street.

GEORGE MEASON WHICHER,
SECRETARY,
Hunter College.

EDWARD L. TILTON,
TREASURER,
32 Broadway.

NEW YORK CITY,
Mar. 3, 1918

My dear Mr. Newell,

I have wished to call your lecture to the attention of those particularly who are interested in the subject of coinage, and so I have directed envelopes to members of your Society who live in or near the City. But as you do not print their addresses, I am not able to send these tickets without your help. If you will have the correct addresses written on the envelopes

I am sending. I will pay his clerk who does it.

Very truly yours,
G. M. Whicher

March 25 1918

Dr. George M. Whicher

Hunter College

Borough of Manhattan

New York City

Dear Dr. Whicher:-

A meeting of our Society on April 4 at 8.15 p. m. is to be addressed by Mr. Newell in what is practically a continuation of the talk he gave before the Archaeological Institute. The subject reads "The Greek Coinage from the Time of Alexander the Great."

It is our desire to send invitations to interested members of the Institute. May I, therefore, ask that you send me a list of your membership if possible. The cards will be sent out within a day or two. I should very much like them to go, if possible, by Wednesday.

Very truly yours,

Secretary.

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32 Broadway.

NEW YORK CITY,
Mar. 25, 1918

Dear Mr. Newell,

I am sending a list of your Society, canceling the names of those who are already members of our Institute, or who live so far away that they are not within our "sphere of influence". If you will have a clerk add the addresses and send the list back to me, I shall be very much obliged. In a few days I shall have a list of our Society type-written and shall send

you a copy as you requested.

Very truly yours

G. M. Wheelock

March 26th, 1918.

Dr. George M. Whicher,
Hunter College,
New York.

Dear Dr. Whicher;-

Your letter of Mr. Newell has been referred to me for action. I have crossed from the list with a red pencil the names which it would be useless for you to circularize. Whenever there has been a question I have left the name but I think that in no case that has been cancelled would there have been the slightest probability of your succeeding in obtaining a members. The addresses for the balance are added. I trust this information will meet your need.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

March 28th, 1918.

Dr. G. M. Whicher,
Hunter College,
New York.

Dear Dr. Whicher:-

I am returning herewith the list of members of the New York Society of the Archaeological Institute. Thank you very much. The cards for Mr. Newell's talk are going out to-day - I enclose one. Might I suggest that we should be very glad to have you urge the attendance of any one you might know who would be interested. We should particularly like to see a good attendance for this evening.

Yours respectfully,

Secretary.

Two enclosures.

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26 Beaver Street.

GEORGE MEASON WHICHER,
SECRETARY,
Hunter College.

EDWARD L. TILTON,
TREASURER,
32 Broadway.

NEW YORK CITY,

April 1, 1918

My dear Mr Noe,

Thanks for the notice of Mr Newell's lecture. As I have already two appointments for Thursday, I shall — much to my regret — be unable to attend. But I shall take pleasure in calling attention to it, and am much obliged to you for sending tickets to our members.

Very truly yours
G. M. Whicher

April 25th, 1918.

Dr. G. M. Whicher,
Hunter College,
New York.

Dear Dr. Whicher:-

When you were at our Museum the evening of Mr. Newell's talk you thought you could be able to send us a list of prominent Greek people in this City. I am wondering if the matter slipped your mind. I would like very much to have this list.

Yours very respectfully,

Secretary.

419 West 119
Nov. 25, 1918.

My dear Sir,

I had hardly put down on paper your kind agreement to open your Museum to the members of the Archaeological Institute on the afternoon of Friday, Dec. 27, when reasons developed which seem to make it necessary to change the date. Would it inconvenience you to ap-

ford us the same privilege on Saturday afternoon, Dec 28th?

I cannot now say just which date would be possible for us, but if it makes no difference to you, I will have our people decide next week and notify you at once.

With thanks for the courtesy you have already shown in the matter, — Very truly yours

G. M. Hitchcock

419 West 119
Dec. 2, 1918

Dear Sir,

We have decided to adhere to our first plan for the meeting of the Archaeological Institute, and shall announce a visit to the Numismatic Museum on Friday Dec. 27 at 2:30.

I am very grateful to you

for your kindness in consenting to this arrangement. Of course we can not tell now what our total attendance will be nor how many of them will wish to see your collections.

Perhaps after the meeting begins on Thursday I can at least ascertain whether any are coming your way and can notify you by telephone.

Very truly yours

J. M. Thacher

December 21st, 1918

Dr. G. M. Whicher,
419 West 119th Street,
New York City.

My dear Sir:-

We are looking forward to the visit of the convention of the Archaeological Institute on December 27th and hope our attractions will prove sufficient to induce the attendance of a substantial delegation.

We have recently placed in our main exhibition cases, our collection of medals struck in the past to commemorate the conclusion of peace or the signing of treaties. We have about 500 of these. What will be, perhaps, more interesting to your members is our collection of ancient (circa 600 B.C.) Chinese coins. Our cabinet of these is the finest in the world. Contemporaneous with these Asiatic issues were those of the Greek states of which there are some splendid in the J. Pierpont Morgan collection now in our museum. These two series are the earliest known coinages and would, I am sure be worth calling special attention to in your announcement.

Mr. Newell writes me that he hopes to be in town over the holidays, in which case he will be glad to show his own extensive collection of Greek coins.

Very sincerely,

Assistant to the Curator

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Dear Sir

The Council of the Archaeological Institute has taken steps to bring to the attention of the Peace Commissioners at Paris the importance of devising measures to protect the many historical monuments situated in Asia Minor, and other countries which were lately under Turkish Government. It is very desirable that this action should be shared in by many learned societies in America, and several of them have adopted resolutions which are practically identical with those sent herewith.

I beg leave to urge that, if the organization to which this letter is addressed has not yet acted on this matter, it do so as soon as may be, by the action of the Trustees, Executive Committee, or other groups authorized to represent the whole of the membership. The person at the American Embassy in London, who will act as our intermediary in the business, has already received the record of motions passed by several associations or museums, and I wish to forward to him, at the earliest possible date, the statement that these resolutions have received the support of a large number of American scholars. Will you not kindly give early attention to the matter?

Very truly yours

G. M. Whicher

General Secretary

February 20th, 1919.

Dr. G. M. Whicher,
Columbia University,
New York.

Dear Dr. Whicher:-

At the meeting of our Council held on February 1st I was instructed to inform you that that body is entirely in sympathy with the subject of your communication concerning the steps to be taken to bring to the attention of the Peace Commissioners at Paris the importance of devising measures to protect historical monuments in countries under the Turkish domination. We heartily subscribe to the form of resolutions adopted by the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

Do you want these repeated and formally signed or will the above statement suffice in that connection? Please let me know your pleasure.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

June 17th, 1929

Professor G. M. Whicher
Hunter College
Lexington Ave. & 68th St.
New York City

Dear Professor Whicher:

I shall be very glad to give a lecture before the Archaeological Institute next season. The date which you suggest, January 14, 1921, is perfectly convenient for me.

I should like very much to select a subject dealing with Symbolism in Greek Art, but this is probably not the exact title which I should select. I have no slides ready for use in connection with such a talk but I have a number of cuts which have been used to make half-tones in illustration of an article which I wrote on Symbolism on Greek coins. I shall, also, have a number of illustrations which are now being made in connection with an article on mountain cults, and the symbolical representation on a large number of coins. All these cuts could be used in making slides for a lecture.

I could draw up a lecture dealing with certain phases of primitive nature worship, and a good deal of the material I have just mentioned could be used to illustrate such a talk.

To be more concrete, I could, for instance, illustrate tree, mountain and river cults, both on Greek coins and other important monuments, such as vases. I really think that this sort of lecture would appeal to me more than a general talk on Greek coins. But, of course, if you prefer any subject in Greek or Roman numismatics, or numismatics in general, I shall be equally glad to give it. I only thought that the material I have on hand which would be of more popular interest is that connected with symbolism and religion. I do not wish to give too vague a title to the lecture, and I should like to make it clear that the lecture would cover certain topics with which most people are familiar.

(over)

Professor G. M. Whicher June 17th, 1920

For example, almost everyone has seen the symbol of the swastika as it is so commonly used today, but very few people have any idea of the ultimate origin and great antiquity of the symbol. The same is true of the so-called Triskele or Sicilian symbol found, also, on the coins of the Isle of Man. There is, undoubtedly, a close connection between these two symbols, but a good deal written about it is so untrue.

If you would like me to take the symbols alone, I could limit the talk to such symbols as occur on Greek coins, using other monuments merely to explain the history and meaning of the symbols.

Will you let me know, please, just what part of the subject would be most effective in your opinion and what would be the best title to give? Also, whether the Institute will co-operate in the cost of preparing the slides?

Very sincerely yours,

B/E
Enc.

October 8th, 1920

Professor G. F. Whicher
Hunter College
Park Ave.,68th St.
New York City

Dear Professor Whicher:

I beg your pardon for not replying to your first letter of this fall, asking for the title of my lecture before the Institute on January 14th.

I have been slightly embarrassed by the lack of any slides which I could use in our lecture, as I wrote you rather fully last spring. Not having received any answer from you during the summer, I was not able to go ahead with any plans. I believe that Mr. Newell in lecturing before the Insitute used some slides of the Metropolitan Museum - these were slides suitable for a general numismatic talk. As I wrote you, I would prefer to have something more special, and in particular would like to talk about symbolism on Greek coinage. I have a number of half-tone cuts, and the original of these are in the possession of the Society; I could get all the slides I need in this way. I was just wondering whether I ought to have to pay for these, and I had been trying to estimate the cost before sending you the title of my lecture.

The subject could be called Symbolism on Greek and Roman Coins. I could give the first part of it in one lecture, and then give another part another year. Will you kindly tell me whether the Institute would be able to furnish me the slides?

Very truly yours,

B/E